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Sorensen, Application No. 09/943,404

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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

generating a user interface that explains to a user a computer system's search logic and results, the generating further comprising:
presenting a presentation model to explain how a system model relates a plurality of search input elements to a comparison element, wherein the comparison element is selected from a list of potential comparison elements, and wherein the system model is used to determine a first search result;
presenting how the system model is related to the comparison element; and
presenting a relative importance of the system model in comparison with the comparison element.
2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
presenting how parts of the system model are related to parts of the comparison element.
3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising:
presenting a relative importance of the parts of the system model in comparison with parts of the comparison element.
4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising:
presenting how parts of each of the plurality of search input elements are related to parts of the system model.
5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, further comprising:
presenting a relative importance of the parts of the plurality of search input elements in comparison with the parts of the system model.
6. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
saving the system model.
7. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

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receiving a modification to the plurality of search input elements to create a new plurality of search input elements;
determining a second search result;
updating the system model to create a new system model incorporating the modification;
presenting how the new system model is related to the comparison element; and
presenting a new relative importance of the new system model in comparison with the comparison element.

8. (Currently Amended) A machine for generating a user interface that explains to a user a computer system's search logic and results, comprising:

a processor;
a storage device coupled to the processor;
a search component storable on the storage device and executable on the processor to accept at least one search input element and determine a first search result using a system model; and
a presentation component storable on the storage device and executable on the processor
to generate a user interface that explains to a user a computer system's search logic and results, the user interface based at least in part on a
presentation of a presentation model relating the system model to a comparison element, wherein the comparison element is selected from a list of potential comparison elements.

9. (Original) The machine as recited in claim 8, wherein:
the processor is a server; and
further wherein the processor is capable of receiving the at least one search input element from a client.

10. (Original) The machine as recited in claim 8, wherein the processor is capable of communicating in a wireless Internet environment.

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11. (Currently Amended) A tangible machine-accessible medium having associated content capable of directing a machine to perform a method, the method comprising:

generating a user interface that explains to a user the machine's search logic and results, the generating further comprising:

performing an application to accept at least one search input element and to produce at least one search result using a system model, the application having search logic;

presenting a presentation model to explain how the system model relates the at least one search input element to a comparison element, wherein the comparison element is selected from a list of potential comparison elements;

presenting a contribution of the comparison element to the system model; and

presenting a relative importance of the system model in comparison with the comparison element.

12. (Previously presented) The tangible machine-accessible medium as recited in claim 11, further comprising:

presenting a contribution of parts of the comparison element to parts of the system model; and

presenting a relative importance of parts of the system model in comparison with parts of the comparison element.

13. (Previously presented) The tangible machine-accessible medium as recited in claim 11, further comprising:

accepting at least one modification to the at least one search input element;

dynamically updating the system model and the presentation model;

dynamically updating the contribution of each of the comparison element to the system model; and

dynamically updating the relative importance of the system model in comparison with the comparison element.

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14. (Previously presented) The tangible machine-accessible medium as recited in claim 11, wherein the application is an electronic mail application.
15. (Previously presented) The tangible machine-accessible medium as recited in claim 11, wherein the application is an Internet search engine.
16. (Previously presented) The tangible machine-accessible medium as recited in claim 11, wherein the application is a database application.
17. (Previously presented) The tangible machine-accessible medium as recited in claim 11, wherein the application is an e-commerce application.
18. (Previously presented) The tangible machine-accessible medium as recited in claim 11, wherein the application is a document management application.
19. (Previously presented) A user interface that explains to a user a computer system's search logic and results, comprising:
 - an input scheme for receiving at least one search input element;
 - a presentation model for presenting at least one search result using a system model, the presentation model further for explaining how a system model relates the at least one search input element to a comparison element, wherein the comparison element is selected from a list of potential comparison elements, the presentation model further for presenting an explanation of search logic.
20. (Canceled) Please cancel Claim 20 without prejudice.
21. (Previously presented) The user interface as recited in claim 19 wherein the presentation model is further for:
 - presenting a relative importance of the comparison element to the system model.
22. (Previously presented) The user interface as recited in claim 21, wherein the input scheme is further for
 - receiving at least one modification to the at least one search input element and

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the presentation model is further capable of dynamically updating the explanation of search logic.

23. (Previously presented) A method for generating a user interface that explains to a user a computer system's search logic and results, comprising:

- receiving a basis of a search, the basis comprising at least one item;
- presenting the basis in a retained-items list;
- creating a similarity profile from the retained-items list;
- generating a suggested-items list from the similarity profile, the suggested-items list comprising at least one item;
- presenting the suggested-items list as search results; and
- providing an option to present the similarity profile.

24. (Original) The method as recited in claim 23, further comprising:

- receiving a selected item from the suggested-items list;
- receiving a request for presentation of the similarity profile for the selected item;
- and
- presenting a presentation comparing the selected item to the similarity profile.

25. (Original) The method as recited in claim 24, wherein presenting the presentation comparing the selected item to the similarity profile comprises:

- computing a profile-word importance for each word in the similarity profile;
- computing a degree of match for each word in the selected item in relation to the similarity profile using the profile-word importance;
- presenting the profile-word importance for each word in the similarity profile; and
- presenting the degree of match for each word in the selected item in relation to that same word in the similarity profile.